

IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 1. (Cancelled)

Claim 2. (previously presented) A method of installing and binding a device previously wired into an automation or multimedia network when said device is the first device to be installed in said network, said method comprising the steps of:

- placing said device in a first-device installation mode of operation;
- transmitting a command to the device confirming that the device is in the installation mode of operation;
- selecting by said device a domain ID having an associated length;
- transmitting said domain ID selected by said device to determine that it is not in use by any other device on said network;
- selecting by said device a subnet number and a device ID number; and
- generating an indication to indicate that the installation of said device onto said network is complete.

Claim 3. (previously presented) The method according to claim 2, wherein said step of placing said device in a first device installation mode of operation comprises pressing and holding a push button switch on said device.

Claim 4. (original) The method according to claim 2, wherein said step of placing said device in a first-device installation mode of operation comprises receiving a command from a local management tool connected directly to said device.

Claim 5. (original) The method according to claim 2, wherein said step of placing said device is a first-device installation mode of operation comprises receiving a command from a remote management tool connected remotely over said network.

Claim 6. (original) The method according to claim 2, wherein said step of placing said device in a first-device installation mode of operation comprises setting a

visual or audible indication confirming that said device is in said installation mode of operation.

Claim 7. (original) The method according to claim 2, further comprising the step of generating an error indication if said device was previously installed.

Claim 8. (previously presented) The method according to claim 2, wherein said step of assigning to said device a domain ID comprises the steps of:

querying said network using said assigned domain ID;

listening for a response to said query; and

selecting by the device a new domain ID different than the first domain ID selected by the device in the event a response is received within a predetermined time period.

Claim 9. (previously presented) The method according to claim 2, wherein said step of assigning to said device a domain ID comprises the steps of:

querying said network using said domain ID selected by said device;

listening for a response to said query;

selecting a new domain ID by the device that is different than the first selected domain ID in the event a response is received within a predetermined time period; and

querying said network using said selected domain ID at least on additional two times in the event a response is not received within a predetermined time period.

Claims 10 – 17 (cancelled)

Claim 18. (previously presented) The method according to claim 2, wherein said step of assigning a device ID number to said new device comprises the step of:

querying said network using said assigned device ID number selected by said device;

listening for a response to said query;

selecting by said device a new device ID number different than the first selected device ID number in the event a response is received within a predetermined time period; and

querying said network using said last selected device ID number at least an additional two times in the event a response is not received within a predetermined time period.

Claims 19 - 31 (cancelled)